

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 119119
ORIGIN EB-03

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DRAFTED BY:EB/ICD/TRP:MWALL:JMM

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R 240115Z MAY 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS STATE 119119

FOLLOWING REPEAT BRASILIA ACTION SECSTATE INFO LONDON
RIO DE JANEIRO SAO PAULO DATED MAY 20:

QTE: UNCLAS BRASILIA 4070

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, EPAP, ETRD, BR

SUBJECT: RESTRICTIONS ON COFFEE SALES

REF: (A) STATE 111015, (B) SAO PAULO 1260, (C) BRASILIA 3197
(NOTAL), (D) RIO DE JANEIRO 2191 (NOTAL)

1. IN MID-APRIL THE IBC PROHIBITED THE EXPORTATION OF TYPE
7 AND 8 COFFEE (REF, C). THIS MEASURE WAS TAKEN, ACCORDING
TO THE IBC, IN ORDER TO ASSURE AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF THIS
TYPE COFFEE TO THE DOMESTIC COFFEE INDUSTRY. THE IBC HAS
SO FAR TAKEN NO OTHER MEASURES TO RESTRICT COFFEE
EXPORTS QUANTITATIVELY.

2. IBC PRESIDENT CALAZANS STATED IN MID-MAY (BEFORE THE
RECENT FREEZE--SEE NEXT PARAGRAPH) THAT THE JULY EXPORT
REGISTRATIONS WOULD NOT BE OPENED IF PRICES DID NOT
IMPROVE FROM THEIR RELATIVELY DEPRESSED (FROM THE
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BRAZILIAN POINT OF VIEW) LEVELS OF THE FIRST HALF OF
MAY (REF. D).

3. IT IS DIFFICULT TO PREDICT WHETHER THE GOB WILL TAKE
MEASURES TO RESTRICT COFFEE SALES IN THE NEAR FUTURE.
THE EARLY COLD WAVE THAT HIT PARANA IN RECENT DAYS
(REF. B) HAS RAISED THE SPECTER OF ANOTHER SERIOUS

FROST IN BRAZIL'S MAJOR COFFEE PRODUCING REGIONS. BOTH CALAZANS AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY ANGELO CALMON DE SA CONTINUE TO ASSERT THAT THE GOB IS NOT CONTEMPLATING AN EXPORT BAN (JORNAL DO BRASIL, MAY 19). CALAZANS ADMITTED THAT A BAN COULD BE IMPOSED AFTER A SEVERE FROST, IF ONE SHOULD OCCUR, BUT HE HINTED THAT SUCH A BAN WOULD BE TEMPORARY AND WOULD LAST ONLY LONG ENOUGH FOR THE IBC TO ASSESS CROP DAMAGE.

4. CALMON DE SA INDICATED ON MAY 18 (REPORTED IN O GLOBO OF MAY 19) THAT THE IBC WOULD ANNOUNCE SEVERAL NEW MEASURES MAY 20. HE DID NOT INDICATED WHAT THESE MEASURES MIGHT BE, BUT PRESS SPECULATION IS THAT MEASURES MIGHT INCLUDE SOME FORM OF EXPORT "CONTINGENCIAMENTO", E.G. A SCHEME THAT WOULD REQUIRE COFFEE MARKETERS TO RESERVE A PROPORTION OF THEIR COFFEE FOR THE DOMESTIC MARKET (REF D), IBC ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE REPORTED PROMPTLY.
CRIMMINS UNQTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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